

REMARKS

Claims 22-31 and 33-44 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claim 22 is amended to incorporate the features of dependent claim 32, and claim 32 is canceled. Reconsideration based on the above amendments and following remarks is respectfully requested.

**I. Claims 22-44 Satisfy the Requirements
Of 35 U.S.C. §112, First Paragraph**

The Office Action rejects claims 22-44 under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph. Specifically, the Office Action asserts that the features "the first data line driving circuit being a line sequential driver" and "the second data line driving circuit having a plurality of switches, the plurality of switches being connected to one of the plurality of data lines and being turned on sequentially" do not comply with the written description requirement. The rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant submits that the original specification, at least at page 13, line 3 to page 15, line 19, and at page 20, line 15 to page 21, line 23, fully supports the above features. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

I. Pending Claims 22-31 and 33-44 Define Patentable Subject Matter

The Office Action rejects claims 22-24, 27-29 and 36-44 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 5,412,397 to Kanatani et al. (hereafter "Kanatani") in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,576,730 to Shimada et al. (hereafter "Shimada"); rejects claims 25, 26, 30 and 33 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kanatani in view of Shimada and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,816,816 to Usui (hereafter "Usui"); and rejects claims 31, 32, 34 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Kanatani in view of Shimada and Usui and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,856,816 to Youn (hereafter "Youn") and European Patent Application No. EP 0 678 848 to Maekawa (hereinafter "Maekawa Toshiazu"). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

Kanatani in combination with Shimada fails to disclose or suggest a display device comprising, *inter alia*, first and second data line driving circuits, at least one of the first data line driving circuit and the second data line driving circuit having a function of outputting an analog data signal, as set forth in independent claim 22.

The Office Action admits that neither Kanatani nor Shimada discloses or suggests this feature. However, the Office Action asserts that Usui, in Fig. 4, discloses the above feature. Applicant respectfully disagrees with this assertion.

Usui, in Fig. 4 and at col. 4, line 14 to col. 5, line 12, discloses that digital data EA outputted by the A/D converter 24 are supplied directly to switching circuit 43. Circuit 43 then supplies the data DA and DB to shift registers 28 and 30, respectively. Thereafter, the digital data is supplied to the LCD panel 27A, 27B through first and second data line drivers 29 and 31. Thus, in Usui, both first and second data line drivers output digital data.

For at least these reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 22 is patentable over the applied art. Claims 23-26, 30, 31, 34 and 35, which depend from claim 22, also are patentable over the applied art for at least the reasons discussed above. Withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) is respectfully requested.

Regarding the rejection of claims 31, 32, 34 and 35 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a), Applicant submits that Youn and Maekawa Toshiazu do not qualify as prior art under any section of 35 U.S.C. §102, and thus cannot be applied as the basis of a §103 rejection. Specifically, the U.S. filing date of Youn is October 13, 1995 and the publication date of Maekawa Toshiazu is October 25, 1995. However, the present application claims priority from Japanese Patent Application No. 7-15120, filed February 1, 1995, which predates both the U.S. filing date of Youn and the publication date of Maekawa Toshiazu. All of the rejected claims of the present application are supported in the Japanese Patent Application

No. 7-15120. An accurate English-language translation of Japanese Patent Application No. 7-15120 has been filed with the patent Office on April 23, 2004.

Because Youn and Maekawa Toshiazu do not qualify as prior art under any section of 35 U.S.C §102, Youn and Maekawa Toshiazu cannot be used as prior art under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) because "before answering Graham's 'content' inquiry, it must be known whether a patent or publication is in the prior art under 35 U.S.C. §102." Panduit Corp. v. Dennison Mfg. Co., 810 F.2d 1561, 1568, 1 USPQ2d 1593, 1597 (Fed. Cir.). Thus, Applicant respectfully requests that the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejections of claims 31, 32, 34 and 35 based on Youn and Maekawa Toshiazu be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 22-31 and 33-44 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,


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